

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

WA-II-394  
District 20  
Map 61  
Parcel 10  
MAGI # 2209575635

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Ellerslie

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Downsville Pike

CITY, TOWN

☒ VICINITY OF Downsville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Washington

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

☐ DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

☐ STRUCTURE

☐ SITE

☐ OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

☐ PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

☐ BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

☐ IN PROCESS

☐ BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

☒ OCCUPIED

☐ UNOCCUPIED

☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

**ACCESSIBLE**

☐ YES: RESTRICTED

☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED

☒ NO

**PRESENT USE**

☒ AGRICULTURE

☐ MUSEUM

☐ COMMERCIAL

☐ PARK

☐ EDUCATIONAL

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

☐ ENTERTAINMENT

☐ RELIGIOUS

☐ GOVERNMENT

☐ SCIENTIFIC

☐ INDUSTRIAL

☐ TRANSPORTATION

☐ MILITARY

☐ OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Dan H. Downey

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Route # 3, Box 200

CITY, TOWN

Williamsport

☐ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21795

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Washington County Court House

STREET & NUMBER

West Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown

STATE

Maryland 21740

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

WA-II-394

### CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED < 50%

### CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Ellerslie is a large complex of buildings including a two and a half story five bay brick house, a frame secondary dwelling, a stone spring house, two large barns and related outbuildings. Other structures were removed at various times in the property's history.

The main house was built in 1885 for \$2800 according to the present owner. It is constructed in common bond at all elevations with segmental arches above the openings. Matching Victorian porches are present at the central front entrance and along the end wall of the house. A series of brackets trim the eaves. Interior features of note include plaster medallions in the hall and parlor ceilings. Apparently this house replaced an older structure behind it that was torn down in 1885. A gate in an iron fence in front of the house is inscribed with the name George Downey, its builder.

An earlier barn was located north of the house. The present dairy barn was built in 1939.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

WA-II-394

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

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SPECIFIC DATES	1885	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	George Downey
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## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This farm is an extensive 19th and 20th century complex. It has been in the Downey family for four generations. The house dated 1885 is an excellent example of late 19th century rural architecture combining classical formality with stylish ginger bread. The spring house is said to be the site of an early 19th century distillery. The dairy barn built in 1939 is said to have been the first milking parlor in Washington County and the second in Maryland. The owner also reported that Civil War trenches were dug in the woods north of the house and were used by confederate soldiers retreating from Gettysburg in 1863.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 195.12 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Paula Stoner, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Preservation Associates

DATE

June 1978

STREET &amp; NUMBER

109 West Main Street, Box 202

TELEPHONE

301-432-5466

CITY OR TOWN

Sharpsburg

STATE

Maryland 21782

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438





WA-II-394

W.

April, 1976

Ellerslie

Downsville Pike  
Downsville Vicinity

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY





WA-7-394

N.W.

April, 1976

Ellerslie

Downsville Pike

Downsville Vicinity

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Ellerslie

Downsville Pike  
Downsville Vicinity

WA-II-394

S.E.

April, 1976

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
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HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-II-394

S.W.

April, 1976

Ellerslie

Downsville Pike  
Downsville Vicinity

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-π-394

S.

April, 1976

Ellerslie

Downsville Pike  
Downsville Vicinity

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WA-7F-394

Secondary dwelling, N.W.

April, 1976

Ellerslie

Downsville Pike

Downsville Vicinity

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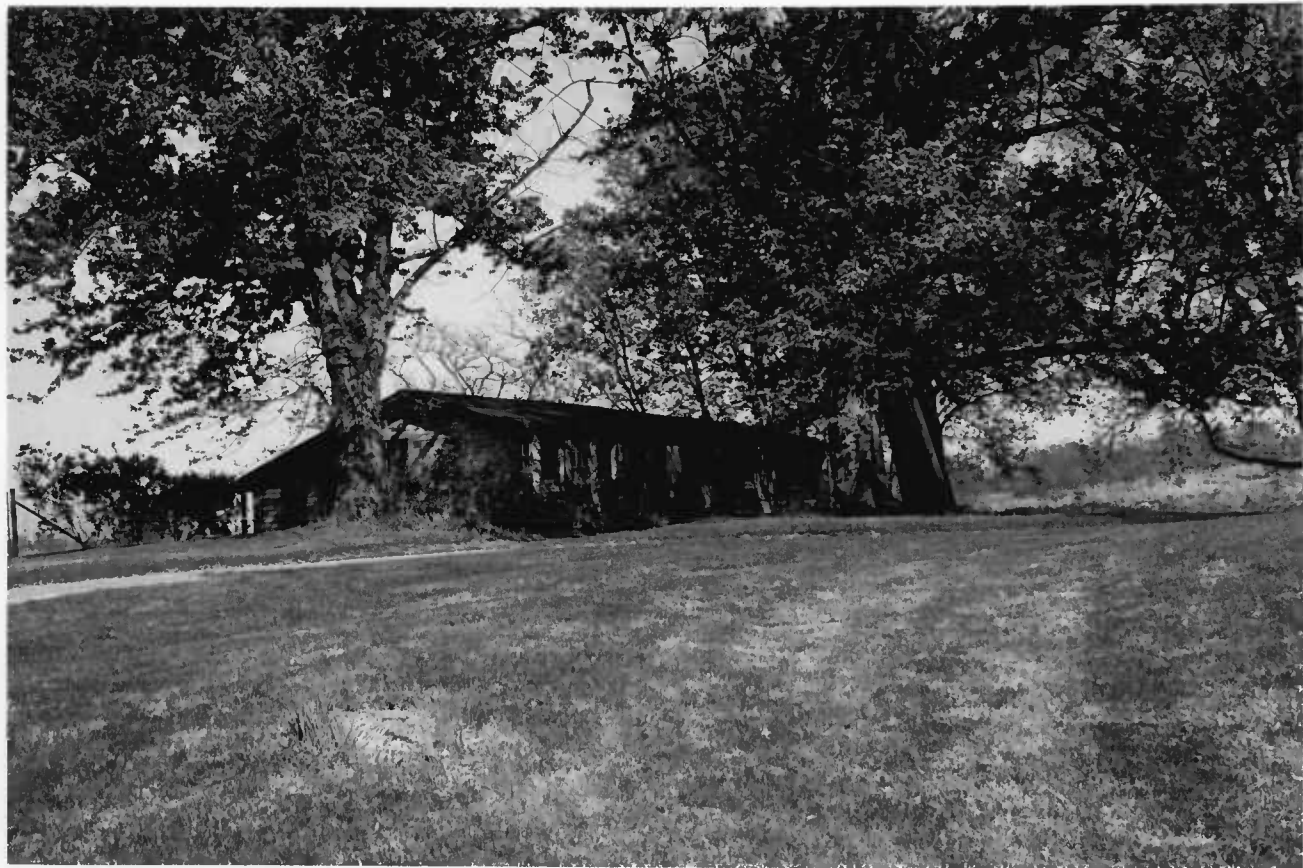
Barn W.

April, 1976

Ellerslie

Downsville Pike  
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Downsville Pike  
Downsville Vicinity

WA-II-394

Chicken house

S.W.

April, 1916

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Downsville Pike  
Downsville Vicinity

WA-T-394

E

April, 1976

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Springhouse N.

April, 1976

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Springhouse N.W.

April 1976

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foundation ruins

S.W.

April 1976

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Ellerslie

Downsville Pike  
Downsville Vicinity

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detail w. wall

April, 1976

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Stonefence and road  
N. view. April, 1976

Ellerslie

Downsville Pike  
Downsville Vicinity

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY